

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Austin will be held on the 6th day of December 1957, at the Municipal Building, Eighth and Colorado, in Austin, Texas, at 9:00 A.M. for the purpose of hearing appeal of Roy Velasquez from decision of Taxicab Franchise Commission in denying his application for 16 additional taxicabs.

(Sgd) Elsie Woosley
City Clerk

(Sgd) Tom Miller
Mayor
City of Austin, Texas

ATTEST:

(Sgd) Elsie Woosley
City Clerk

CONSENT TO MEETING

We, the undersigned members of the City Council, hereby accept service of the foregoing notice, waiving any and all irregularities in such service and such notice, and consent and agree that said City Council shall meet at the time and place therein named, and for the purpose therein stated.

(Sgd) Emma Long

(Sgd) Lester E. Palmer

(Sgd) Ben White

(Sgd) Wesley Pearson

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

Special Meeting

December 6, 1957
9:00 A.M.

Council Chamber, City Hall

The meeting was called to order with Mayor Miller presiding.

Roll call:

Present: Councilmen Long, Palmer, Pearson, White, Mayor Miller
Absent: None

Present also: W. T. Williams, Jr., City Manager; Doren R. Eskew, City Attorney.

The Mayor announced that this meeting was called for the purpose of hearing the appeal of ROY VELASQUEZ from the decision of the Taxicab Franchise Commission in denying his application for 16 additional taxicabs.

MR. FRANK DENIUS represented MR. ROY VELASQUEZ.

MR. TRUEMAN E. O'QUINN represented CHECKER CAB COMPANY, YELLOW CAB COMPANY and OWL TAXI SERVICE, whose operations represented 59% of the total cab operation in the City. Mr. O'Quinn stated there had been no application for increase in cabs since the ordinance was passed in 1950; that the Taxicab Franchise Commission had found there was no need for additional service. He filed copies of official records of the Taxicab Department Inspector's Division as follows:

ANALYSIS OF TAXICAB COMPANY OPERATIONS FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 1957
(and on through SEPTEMBER 1957)

ANNUAL REPORT, OF TAXICAB COMPANY OPERATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR,
OCTOBER 1956 THRU SEPTEMBER 1957 AS SHOWN BY TAXICAB COMPANIES
REPORT TO AUDITOR'S OFFICE (and reports back to 1950-51)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF TAXICAB COMPANIES RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
AND PROFITS FROM MONTHS OF JANUARY 1956 AND 1957 (including months
through July, 1956-1957 and September, 1956-57) (No August report)

RECEIPTS FROM OPERATION OF TAXICAB COMPANIES AS SHOWN BY MONTHLY
REPORTS FOR JANUARY 1957 (including months through September 1957),
and

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSE OF TAXICAB COMPANIES FOR JANUARY, 1957
(Including months through July, and September) (No August report)

Mr. O'Quinn stated from all records, there was no indication of inadequate cab service for the travelling public.

MR. DENIUS stated the general public was suffering because it did not have adequate cab service. MR. RALPH MOORE supported the application for extra cab service. In connection with Paragraph 2 of the findings of the Taxicab Commission regarding Roy's Taxi Company's not operating 24 hours a day, Mr. Denius filed the following affidavit signed by Roy Velasquez:

"THE STATE OF TEXAS {
 KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:
COUNTY OF TRAVIS {

"BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, a notary public in and for Travis County, Texas, personally appeared Roy Velasquez who, after being duly sworn, did depose and state as follows:

"1. That I am over the age of twenty-one (21) years and not incapacitated in any way in making this affidavit.

"2. That I am the owner of Roy's Taxi.

"3. That this affidavit is made in connection with my application on file with the City Council to operate sixteen (16) additional taxicabs in the City of Austin.

"4. That Paragraph 2 of the findings of the Taxicab Franchise Commission indicate and hold that Roy's Taxi does not operate a twenty-four (24) hour service. In truth and in fact, Roy's taxis and terminal are available to the public at any hour, day or night, and that the public at large may call Roy's Taxi telephone number at any time and cab service will be available to them as promptly as dispatching permits.

"(Sgd) Roy Velasquez
Roy Velasquez

"SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME by the said Roy Velasquez on this 6th day of December, 1957, to certify which witness my official signature and seal of office.

"(Sgd) Cornelia George
Notary Public in and for
Travis County, T e x a s
Cornelia George"

MR. O'QUINN introduced some independent drivers: MR. J. GORDON COX, operating out of the Checker Cab terminal, stated he feared being forced out of business if additional cabs were permitted, as that would cut down on each individual's business; that he was driving 12-14 hours a day to make a living; MR. FRED WORKMAN agreed with Mr. Cox, and stated the driver made only 40% of the 12-14 hour day's work. MR. STEVE TARTER, operator of four cabs under Yellow and Checker Cab Company, stated there was a big problem of the cab owner making any money; and he believed the less cabs in operation, the more the drivers could make. MR. RANDOLPH HAWKINS, DeLuxe Cab Company, stated it would be a

continous fight, for if one got more cabs, the others would want more. He operated 18 out of 20 cars. MR. GEORGE KNOX, Harlem Cab Company, had 20 permits, but had not used all of them as business was falling off.

MR. DENIUS introduced two gentlemen who drive for Roy and paid a terminal fee who had no objections to his adding more cars.

MR. BOB LONG, Attorney, stated he was unable to get Yellow Cab or Checker Cab to take him home from the Airport, as they wanted to wait until they got a crowd, but Roy's cab gave him willing service.

MR. O'QUINN asked that the Council study the official records as filed by him that represent the reports and compilations made by the City and reports made by various companies on their operations. He asked also that the radio log book of Roy's Taxi Cab Company be made available, and the record of telephone calls.

The Council discussed the matter of adding more cabs for Roy's Taxi in great detail. It was discussed to grant him 10 more; and if those ten were used, then he could be granted the other six requested. Mr. Velasquez stated he wanted the sixteen. After discussion, Councilman Long moved that the 16 additional cabs they were asking for be granted. The motion was seconded by Councilman White. Councilman Pearson moved that the motion be amended to read "ten" cabs. The amended motion lost for lack of a second. Councilman Long then restated her motion and moved that the City Manager be instructed to instruct the City Attorney to add to Roy's Taxi Company's present authority for 14 permits, to increase it to 30, making 16 additional permits; and that the ordinance be prepared and brought in at the next Regular Meeting of the Council on next Thursday. The motion, seconded by Councilman White, carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmen Long, Palmer, White, Mayor Miller

Noes: Councilman Pearson*

*Councilman Pearson voting against the motion with the statement that he did not feel the evidence presented would justify the 16; although he would be happy to vote for a smaller number, but not on the 16.

MR. RANDOLPH HAWKINS stated he wanted to get more permits also, and he was advised to go through the regular channels.

There being no further Business, the Council adjourned about noon, subject to the call of the Mayor.

APPROVED

Tom Miller
Mayor

ATTEST:

Elsie Hoosley
City Clerk